



MOONBASE ALPHA TECHNICAL NOTEBOOK

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General History

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MOONBASE ALPHA: A BRIEF HISTORY

Moonbase Alpha is perhaps the greatest peace-time achievement in the history of mankind. If, at some point, the abandoned Moonbase is found and explored by a team of alien archaeologists, they will have an example of the finest work of the human race available for study. This small, self-contained world is filled with the latest advancements in the fields of Engineering, Architecture, Astronomy, Mass Transportation, Physics and the Arts. Located in the crater Plato, just above the Sea of Showers on what was once called the "nearside of the Moon," Alpha is a marvel of modern engineering. Constructed out of quarried rock and ores, Moonbase is 4 kilometers (2.5 miles) in diameter and extends up to 1 kilometer (0.6 miles) in areas below the lunar surface. The operation of Moonbase is controlled from Main Mission Tower, located at the hub of the wheel-shaped base. In emergency situations, Moonbase can be operated from the Command Center, located directly beneath Main Mission on Alpha's lowest construction level. Originally, the base was designed to serve as both a deep space exploration station and a monitoring station for the nuclear waste areas on the Moon's far side. Construction began on the 3rd of February, 1983, but was briefly halted during the 1987 thermonuclear war. However, the war created a worldwide recognition of the potential for global disaster, dramatizing the need for mankind to work together on this great project. National barriers were dropped and information on the latest scientific and technological advancements, once closely guarded, now flowed freely. The men and women who designed Moonbase Alpha planned it to be totally self-sustaining. Power is generated through nuclear reactors and the accumulation of solar energy. The Technical Section is equipped with the tools for handling any repair or construction job - from replacing a washer to rebuilding a damaged Eagle Transporter. Medical Section sees to the health and well-being of all Alphans, making continual checkups on all personnel. Every man and woman on Alpha is of exceptional mental and physical status. The average person has attained a PHD or an equivalent scholastic degree in some field of research. Some hold more than one doctorate in related fields. Applications for a position on Alpha are accepted from all parts of the globe, but must be accompanied by recommendations from four instructors in the applicant's chosen field. If the Lunar Commission Review Board accepts the application, the applicant must undergo two years of Earth and space-based training. An average tour of duty is six months. Though a person may reapply to stay for another tour, the individual must pass a strict examination to return. Moonbase's master computer continually monitors the life-functions of everyone on Alpha through individually worn, watch-like sensors. Security sensors, located at key points around the base, also serve to protect the health and welfare of all Alphans.